

Listing of the Claims:

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

1 1 (Currently Amended). A multilingual conversation assist system for
2 assisting a conversation between users of a plurality of languages,
3 comprising:
4 a control means prompting a user to select a conversational
5 situation; and
6 a database comprising a single basic table, storing common
7 conceptual information about at least two languages available for
8 multilingual conversations, a plurality of tables, one table for each of said
9 at least two languages storing language data for conversations in each
10 language, and a plurality of subdatabases, one subdatabase for each of said
11 at least two languages storing data available to a conversation, said single
12 basic table being divided into a word identification number field, an image
13 display file name field, and a conception field, a word identification
14 number in said word identification number field being common among all
15 of said at least two languages as long as a conception of a word is
16 common, the word identification field serving to specify a primary key,
17 each of said subdatabases including an area for storing data for setting a
18 conversational situation, a control section for storing a control program for
19 said control means for reading the setting data of the conversation situation
20 and displaying language units corresponding to the selected conversation
21 situation, and an area for storing language units that are used for said at
22 least two languages,
23 wherein displaying of a language unit is made effective using
24 multimedia so as each language unit is may be represented by a graphic
25 image corresponding to a particular language unit, a language unit
26 presented is in a first language, a phonetic expression of said language unit
27 in second language, and voice output activation corresponding to the
28 language unit presented in the second language.

1 2 (Original). The system according to claim 1, wherein said first means for
2 setting the conversational situation displays predetermined options and has
3 a structure of repeating a step of selecting one of said options a plural
4 number of times.

1 3 (Previously Presented). The system according to claim 1, wherein the
2 language units corresponding to the set conversational situation are
3 searched for in said subdatabase and displayed.

1 4 (Previously Presented). The multilingual conversation assist system
2 according to claim 2, wherein said options are displayed by using said
3 language units stored in said subdatabase or a part thereof.

1 5 (Previously Presented). The system according to claim 2, wherein
2 options over a plurality of stages for setting said conversational situation
3 are stored in a first area of a subdatabase while said language units are
4 stored in a second area of said subdatabase, and wherein one of said
5 options is successively selected from said first area of said subdatabase to
6 search and to display next-stage options in accordance with the selected
7 option until one of final stage options is selected, and the language unit
8 that corresponds to said selected option is searched from said second area
9 of said subdatabase to be displayed.

1 6 (Previously Presented). The system according to claim 2, wherein a
2 plurality of language units are selected in a step of selecting options in a
3 plurality of stages and wherein said selected plurality of language units are
4 combined together and displayed.

1 7 (Previously Presented). The system according to claim 6, wherein said
2 selected plurality of language units are combined and displayed in
3 compliance with a syntax rule previously stored in said second area of said

4 subdatabase.

1 8 (Original). The system according to claim 1, wherein said language unit
2 includes a combination selected from any or all of a character expression
3 in a first language, a character expression in a second language, a
4 corresponding image display, a phonetic expression of a pronunciation in
5 the second language with phonetic symbols in the first language, and a
6 voice representation in the second language.

1 9 (Original). The system according to claim 3, further comprising a server
2 storing said database.

1 10 (Original). The system according to claim 9, further comprising a
2 communication device to which all or part of said database is downloaded
3 by means of a communication with said server.

1 11 (Original). The system according to claim 3, further comprising a
2 storage medium in which said database is previously stored.

1 12 (Original). The system according to claim 3, further comprising a
2 portable device provided with a storage unit in which said database is
3 previously stored.

1 13 (Previously Presented). The system according to claim 1, wherein each
2 said subdatabase contains an area for storing data for setting a
3 conversational situation, said area including a second-stage option table
4 and a second-stage query which includes a language unit connection field
5 of the second-stage option table to indicate whether or not a next language
6 unit is present.

1 14 (Currently Amended). A multilingual conversation assist system for
2 assisting a conversation between users of a plurality of languages,

3 comprising:

4 control means for prompting a user to select a conversational
5 situation;

6 a database storing common conceptual information about at least
7 two languages available for multilingual conversations, said database
8 including

9 a single basic table storing a common conception of language to
10 each of the languages, said single basic table being divided
11 into a word identification number field, an image display
12 file name field, and a conception field, a word identification
13 number in said word identification number field being
14 common among all of said at least two languages as long as
15 a conception of a word is common, the word identification
16 field serving to specify a primary key,

17 a plurality of tables for storing language data for conversations in
18 each language, and

19 a plurality of subdatabases for each pair of possible combination of
20 languages available for multilingual conversation, each said
21 subdatabase containing an area for storing data for setting a
22 conversational situation, said area including a second-stage
23 option table and a second-stage option query which includes
24 a language unit connection field of the second-stage option
25 table to indicate whether or not a next language is present;
26 and

27 display means for displaying language units corresponding to
28 selected conversation situation, wherein said control means accesses said
29 database and controls said display means to display each language unit as a
30 graphic image corresponding to a particular language unit, a language unit
31 presented in a first language, a phonetic expression of said language unit is
32 a second language, and voice output activation corresponding to the
33 language unit in the second language.

1 15 (Previously Presented). The system according to claim 14, wherein said
2 control means, in response to setting a conversational situation, controls
3 said display means to display predetermined options.

1 16 (Currently Amended). The system according to claim ~~14~~ 15, wherein
2 said options are displayed by using said language units stored in said
3 database.

4 17 (Previously Presented). The system according to claim 15, wherein
5 options over a plurality of stages for setting said conversational situation
6 are stored in a first area of a subdatabase while said language units are
7 stored in a second area of said subdatabase, and wherein one of said
8 options is successively selected from said first area of said subdatabase to
9 search and to display next-stage options in accordance with the selected
10 option until one of final stage options is selected, and the language unit
11 that corresponds to said selected option is searched from said second area
12 of said subdatabase to be displayed.